

**FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION**

**TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM**

**NEWLY IMPLEMENTED**

**COOPERATIVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT (CRDA)**

The FAA has recently entered into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRDA) with Foamex L.P. The collaborative research is related to aviation safety. This project is supported through the Airport and Aircraft Safety Research and Development Division, Office of Aviation Research, which performs research on aircraft fire safety and structural integrity.

Foamex Polyurethane Safety Foam has been used for 30 years to suppress fuel tank explosions in military aircraft and land vehicles.

The objective of this research may lead to the introduction of newer foams, which may have a lower density and displace less fuel than current foams. Both existing generation and these newer foams will be subjected to crashworthiness tests, seeking the determination of the foam's effectiveness in suppressing post-crash, fuel-fed fires.

The Government's Principal Investigator is Gary Frings (609) 485-5886 located at the William J. Hughes Technical Center, Atlantic City International Airport, New Jersey 08405. The Principal Investigator for the Collaborating Research Organization is John Galbraith, FOAMEX, L.P., 1500 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Eddystone, Pa. 19022 (610) 499-3727.

This CRDA was awarded on July 28, 2003, and has a duration period of 12 months. The results are expected to be a determination of whether or not foams reduce the severity of post-crash, fuel-fed fires by mitigating fuel tank rupture and/or fuel atomization during the impact.

If you have any questions regarding this CRDA, please contact Deborah M. Germak at (609) 485-9862.